

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A pyrogenically ~~Pyrogenically~~ prepared, doped zinc oxide powder, comprising a ~~wherein the~~ doping component, which comprises at least one oxide selected from the group consisting of the elements aluminum ~~aluminium~~, gallium, indium, germanium, tin, and silicon, and wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the doped zinc oxide powder is in the form of aggregates, having a mean maximum diameter of from 30 to 300 nm, and wherein the doping component is present in an amount of from 0.005 to 15 wt.%.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the mean maximum aggregate diameter has a value of ~~preferably from 50 to 400 nm[[,]] particularly preferably from 80 to 200 nm.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the aggregates have a largely anisotropic structure, defined by a form factor $F(\text{circle})$ of less than 0.5.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 3~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the mean primary particle diameter is from 5 to 30 nm.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 4~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the BET surface area is from 5 to 100 m²/g.

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Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 5~~, wherein said powder ~~characterised in that it~~ has a resistivity of not more than 10^5 Ohm x cm.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 6~~, wherein said powder ~~characterised in that it~~ has a transmission of at least 70 %.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 7~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the amount of doping component is preferably from 0.2 to 6.0 wt.%.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 8~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the doping component is aluminum ~~aluminium~~ oxide.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The zinc ~~Zinc~~ oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 8~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the doping component is a mixture of indium oxide and tin oxide.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A process ~~Proecess~~ for the preparation of the zinc oxide powder according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 10~~, wherein said process comprises, preparing said powder ~~characterised in that it is obtained~~ in four successive zones, a vaporization ~~vaporisation~~ zone, a nucleation zone, an oxidation zone and a quenching zone, from zinc powder and at least one doping agent,

and wherein, in the vaporization ~~vaporisation~~ zone, zinc powder is vaporized ~~vaporised~~ in a flame of air and/or oxygen and a combustion gas, to form a hot reaction mixture, with the proviso that the reaction parameters are so chosen, that oxidation of the zinc does not occur,

and wherein, in the nucleation zone, into which there passes the hot reaction mixture from the ~~vaporisation~~ vaporization zone, ~~consisting of~~ comprising zinc vapour, water vapour as the reaction product of the flame reaction, and optionally excess combustion gas, said mixture is cooled to temperatures ~~of~~ from 500 to 900°C or is cooled by means of an inert gas, and wherein, at least one doping agent in vaporized form, or an aerosol containing at least one doping agent, is fed in in an amount that corresponds to the desired amount of the doping agent in the zinc oxide powder, to form a mixture,

and wherein, in the oxidation zone, the mixture from the nucleation zone is ~~oxidised~~ oxidized with air and/or oxygen, to form an oxidation mixture,

and wherein, in the quenching zone, the oxidation mixture is cooled to temperatures ~~of~~ less than 400°C, by the addition of cooling gas.

Claim 12.(Currently Amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 11, wherein, ~~characterised in that~~ there is fed to the nucleation zone, instead of ~~an~~ the aerosol, the at least one doping agent in ~~vaporised~~ vaporized form.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 11 ~~claims 11~~ ~~or 12,~~ wherein ~~characterised in that~~ an excess of combustion gas, expressed in lambda values ~~of~~ from 0.5 to 0.99, is used in the vaporization ~~vaporisation~~ of zinc powder and the at the at least one doping agent ~~doping agents~~.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 11 ~~claims 11 to 13~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the temperature in the nucleation zone is ~~preferably~~ from 700°C to 800°C.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 11 ~~claims 11 to 14~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the rate of cooling is ~~preferably~~ from 100 K/s to 10,000 K/s, in the nucleation zone, and ~~preferably~~ from 1000 K/s to 50,000 K/s, in the quenching zone.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 11 ~~claims 11 to 15~~, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the dwell time is ~~preferably~~ from 0.1 s to 4 s, in the vaporization ~~vaporisation~~ zone, ~~preferably~~ from 0.05 s to 1.00 s, in the nucleation zone, ~~preferably~~ from 0.05 s to 1.00 s, in the quenching zone, and ~~preferably~~ from 5 ms to 200 ms, in the oxidation zone.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to claim 11 ~~claims 11 to 16~~, wherein the at least one doping agent is selected from the group consisting of ~~characterised in that~~ halides, nitrates, alkyls, alkoxides ~~and/or~~ and mixtures thereof ~~are used as the doping agents~~.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An ~~Use of the zinc oxide powder according to~~ claims 1 to 10 in electrically conductive, optionally transparent lacquer or coating, ~~lacquers and coatings, as a filler, in sun protection formulations~~ comprising the zinc oxide powder of claim 1, and one or more additives.

Claim 19 (New): A filler, comprising the zinc oxide powder of claim 1, and one or more additives.

Claim 20 (New): A sun protection formulation, comprising the zinc oxide powder of claim 1, and one or more additives.